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QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 21 December 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I enclose a copy of the statement on the situation in Israel and the occupied territories made by the European Community and its member States in London and Brussels on 18 December 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 30 and 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) D. H. A. HANNAY

ANNEX

Statement on the situation in Israel and the occupied territories, issued by the European Community and its member States on 18 December 1992

The European Community and its member States firmly condemn the Israeli decision to deport more than 400 Palestinians. They regret that the Israeli authorities failed to respond to the Presidency's appeal not to pursue the policy of deportations, which is a violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, and, in this case, an infringement of the sovereignty of Lebanon. They urge the Israeli authorities to allow the deportees to return immediately. Recent events underline the fact that the peace process is the only way to resolve the problems of the region. The European Community and its member States call upon all parties to redouble their efforts to negotiate a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement.